

# DAILY EVENING BULLETIN.

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## THE SILENT TICKERS.

### The General Public in Sympathy With the Strikers.

**The Grasping Corporations Running Legal Risks—A Falling Off of Over Fifty Per Cent of Business—Stock-brokers Lending Wires and Furnishing Their Own Operators—The Knights of Labor and Private Capitalists Backing the Brotherhood.**

Staff Cor. of the Am. Press Association.

NEW YORK, July 20.—I had hoped to reach here before the consummation of the great strike of the telegraphers, being uncertain whether thereafter the American Press Association's wire could be commanded. I am fortunate, however, in finding it unaffected by that momentous occurrence. It is, of course, the principal topic of conversation here on 'Change and among business men everywhere. There is a pretense of being able to handle their business on the part of the companies here at their central offices, but it is a mere pretense. All the district offices in the city are closed to reinforce the central. Even then in numbers of operators the central offices fall far short of the usual working force, apart from the fact that in efficiency they hardly count two for one. But those district offices are the business gathering of the corporations, and the falling off in business is enormous. Were this last not the fact, the force the Western Union musters here would not even answer for a make shift. Not only have the operators in the city, (and I suppose the same plans have been resorted to in other large cities) been called to the central office, but instruments in numerous country offices have been closed to reinforce the central. Sources of revenue are thus cut off, proportioned probably to what is gained, and it amounts to the robbing of Peter to pay Paul. Instantly on Thursday, after the strike the business of the companies fell off not less, probably, than 50 per cent, and outside of the Brotherhood of operators it is questionable if there are efficient telegraphers on the continent sufficient to do more than fifty per cent of the work performed up to the time of the strike. In speculating upon the ability of the corporations to hold out against the Brotherhood it is not a question whether they can do business, but whether they can do all their business profitably. Telegraph companies are public servants, and the same laws apply to them as to common carriers. As the latter are required by law to receive goods for transportation and to transport them with due diligence in the matter of time, and as the courts have held that a difference between them and their employees in regard to remuneration is no excuse for not carrying out their implied contract with each individual, so any person whose business is dependent upon a telegraph company may require it to send his message promptly, strike or no strike, and if it fails to do so, he can recover any damage which he may sustain. Every hour the companies are now risking these liabilities in addition to the possible errors that may result disastrously to commercial men. The masses of the people are in full sympathy with the operators, for several reasons. First, there is the growing feeling of opposition to monopolies generally, of which the Western Union is among the most objectionable. Second, the work of the operator, especially in central offices, is most laborious and taxing upon the vital forces. Not only is the sense of hearing kept continuously on the alert hour by hour without intermission, but thought must be continuously concentrated upon one message after another that no mistakes may occur. Third, it is known that the earnings of the Western Union particularly have been large, and that a systematic reduction of salaries has been made whenever opportunity has offered. And lastly, large numbers favor strikes on general principles of political economy. Orderly conducted, many look upon them as a sort of safety valve against what, if pent up, would result in ruinous explosion, to-wit: the capital and labor conflict. These hold it to be the unquestioned lesson of history that capital is inherently aggressive, and spurred on by competition it would crush out all small undertakings, trample on individual rights and reduce brain and muscle below the status now held by those commodities in Europe.

NEW YORK, July 20.—The strikers yesterday afternoon held a meeting at No. 8 Horatio street. It was 1 o'clock when the hall of the building was filled, and five minutes past that the meeting was called to order by Chairman John Mitchell. The hall was unlighted, and its semi-darkness was relieved only by the light coming in the windows at the rear. When everything was ready Mr. Mitchell introduced Mr. H. C. Traphagen, who referred to the fact that President T. V. Powderly, of the General Executive Committee of the Knights of Labor, was present. As Mr. Traphagen concluded, a man was heard inquiring if the operators would stand by the linemen, and the response, half drowned with cheers, was "always." Mr. Mitchell read a dispatch from Chicago, stating 700,000 men of other trades and professions had agreed to stand by the operators and furnish money if wanted.

A reply message thanking the wage workers was read. Mr. Jas. Campbell, of the Glass-blowers Association of Pittsburgh, said the men who controlled the monopolies of this country flaunted the black flag of slavery. Robert W. Price, a miner of Maryland, gave his ideas of making a strike, and counseled the men to stand firm. Cheers were given as fifty new members joined the Brotherhood.

The Chairman read a letter from Thos. A. Edison: "Send word if telegraphers want money. If they do, call on me." Another letter from a broker tendering his

financial support, was read.

Mr. Seymour said he had received a letter from George H. Ellery, ex-President of the Franklin Company, who sent word the telegraphers could obtain any amount of money by sending to him.

A telegram from Chicago was read, saying the theatres were giving nightly and daily performances in aid of the telegraph strikers, and that the merchants of St. Louis were subscribing money that was being received by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in aid of the operators.

Mr. P. J. Morris then spoke, cautioning the men against intoxicating liquors. A resolution was adopted declaring until they have gained the victory they pledge themselves to abstain from intoxicating drinks. The meeting adjourned until 11 a. m. to-day.

At 9 o'clock the linemen, with spurs and pokers, will meet in a hall on Canal street and march to the hall. They have engaged a band of music, and will have flags flying on which will be: "Give me liberty or give me death."

General Thomas T. Eckert: "We will pull through beyond doubt. I don't think the operators have acted fairly. We would have listened to their demands. In fact the committee was sending up to hear their grievances. We have treated and intend to treat our employees fairly. The operators acted without any apparent deliberation and in a selfish manner. They throw the country upside down for their own benefit. We would have heard anything."

When Henry Clewes was asked what he thought of it, he said: "I am of the opinion it could and should have been averted on a fair compromise basis."

"How will the strike affect commercial interests?"

"Business must be more or less dis-jointed, though I think it is well it should have occurred during the dull period, as the injury will be materially lessened. We will now be compelled to resort to the old way of conducting business, by mail, and this will afford an opportunity to have a greater appreciation of the service now rendered by that department."

"It is not likely to cause a panic?"

"I hardly think so, though another element to increase the distrust was the difficulties of the trunk lines, which necessitated a meeting to-day, and I think if their action should result unfavorably Wall street may undergo another squall."

"All my sympathies are with the operators," said another prominent Wall street man, "and I should be glad to see them succeed. It would show the company that it would be wise to respect the demands of those who spend their lives in the service."

CINCINNATI, July 20.—Everything is quiet about the telegraph offices to-day. All parties concerned are settling down to a determined strike upon the one hand and a determined resistance upon the other. The strikers' committee is parading the front of the door of the operating-room.

Upon passing the guards on the stairs with some difficulty the reporter found the operating-room supplied with forty-five operators. The most of them looked about them with the air of strangers. Among them was Manager Price, ticking away at an instrument as busy as the busiest.

"How is business?" asked the reporter of him.

"We have enough operators to handle business with reasonable promptness, though not a full force. We have three men at work on New York wires, and two each on Chicago and St. Louis wires. We are receiving new men all the time from the country and the vicinity, and I think in a few days we will be completely equipped again."

"How is the company getting along without you?" inquired the reporter of one of the Brotherhood on guard.

"They are getting no recruits. They boasted they had 30 men engaged. They really have only 24, including the chief operator, superintendent, manager, night chief operator, two or three assistants, and a dozen or so of 'dummies. These 'dummies' are persons who know nothing about the business, but are kept at the instruments to make a show. I tell you that the company can not hold out against us more than a day or two. It is a business requiring constant practice, great mental and bodily labor, and quickness. These 'plugs' they are raking and scraping up can't do the work."

"But can't they get the men from the country?"

"No, sir; they can't get competent men anywhere. There was a 'plug' came blustering around here from some private office and said he had Jay Gould to back him. We soon informed him that we had as much power backing us in the Knights of Labor as the company had in Jay Gould, and we proposed to demonstrate it before we were through."

"How about the students of telegraph schools?"

"Now you are joking. These students could not operate a single line in commercial business to save their necks, much less trunk lines and press dispatches. They do not amount to that," and the operator snapped his fingers in the air.

At the B. & O. office there is not a man at the instruments. Manager Capton says he will some time to-day get five or six good men with which he will get along until he can do better. The men are coming from a distance.

At the Mutual Union office they have one first class operator at work, and are doing business with great delay. One of the Mutual Union wires has been leased to P. H. Burt & Co., on Fourth street, and other stock brokers here and in New York for their exclusive use between Cincinnati and New York during the strike. It will be operated by men furnished by the brokers, and they will have their office here at No. 60 West Third street. Manager Lawler compliments the striking operators highly and says he does not believe they can get a better set of men. Chas. Kahn, Jr., J. W. Miller, F. A. Armstrong and other grain and provision brokers have gone to Chicago to avoid the delay by telegraph, in disposing of long deals, fearing a falling market.

Financial aid has been tendered the strikers by a number of Third street brokers. Their reasons for such a course are that in case the company gains its point so many good men will quit the

service, or be blackballed, that the business of the brokers will be endangered. The proposed aid was declined. The men claim that they can hold out three months on what funds they have. They will then get aid from the Knights of Labor, and when that is exhausted it will be time enough to call upon the public.

Colonel Bob Miles has tendered the free use of the Grand Opera House for a mass meeting, and several prominent gentlemen have consented to address the meeting.

Since the strike was inaugurated the Brotherhood has received seventy new members and expect to add at the rate of five or ten each meeting, which indicates that interest in their success is taken by outside operators who were summoned here by the companies.

Out of the fifty men brought to this city by the Western Union Company, fully one-half have connected themselves with the organization, and refused to go to work, or pledge themselves not to go to work until the trouble has been settled.

NEW YORK, July 21.—The situation is improving rapidly. St. Louis has a full force and the Southwest is loyal. At the principal points in Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana nobody has left. The whole force returned to work at St. Joseph, Mo., stating that they had been deceived. Five of them will return at Evansville, and five or six will go back in the morning at Cleveland. All the force at Columbus, O., are in the union, but they refused to strike. Superintendent Miller at Cincinnati, reported business clear last night except for Memphis. He says everything is "up" at Cleveland and Detroit. Superintendent Wallace, of the Indianapolis District, is very solid. Business is up in his district. Superintendent Dickey, at Omaha, reports that his offices are well manned. Superintendent Clowry adds: "We have more men in Chicago to-night than we can use, and they are pouring in."

The Western Union officials have about 100 operators at work. They also said the service was going on with but little delay.

A reward of \$500 is posted for the arrest and conviction of anyone cutting wires or destroying the company's property.

The feeling among the operators was that the companies had made their best effort in the first forty-eight hours, because they have been preparing for this emergency for weeks, and had provided themselves with lists of all available operators in the neighborhood whom they thought could be called into service. Thus, as half of these have declined to work and most of the others are incompetent, the operators claim to see their way clear for a satisfactory adjustment in the near future. They also claim that the company have no better facilities for procuring men than they have for persuading them to refuse to work, as they can offer equal inducement. There has been no disunion in the ranks, and the rule prohibiting their indulging in intoxicating liquors is being rigidly observed. The new members are initiated by regular appointed committees wherever they are found. One of the arguments of the men is, that while the company have a few capitalists backing them, the operators have the pledged support of 2,000,000 Knights of Labor, and, in their opinion, telegraphing will not be resumed to any extent until the corporations have made concessions. They also feel satisfied that the work is such that the public can not stand it long. Operators at way stations have informed the men that they notice messages to take an hour in transmitting which could be sent by a skillful operator in ten minutes.

The branch offices, with one exception, all closed, and nine out of every ten who were employed in them are with the strikers. They were the worst paid and hardest worked in the city, and consequently look to the success of the strike as their salvation.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 21.—There are only twenty-six operators at work and but half the usual business is being done.

CLEVELAND, July 21.—The Mutual Union here is not affected by the strike. The Western Union main office is working a full force of men.

CHICAGO, July 21.—It is claimed business is well in hand.

LOUISVILLE, July 21.—The Western Union is in bad straits, only two operators being at work.

NEW YORK, June 21.—Erastus Wyman, one of the Western Union directors, and President of the Great Northwestern Company, which controls nearly all the Canadian lines, said, so far as the Canadian lines were concerned, any compromise or concession to the strikers was simply an impossibility. To increase their compensation would destroy all the profits. This was because Parliament regulated the rate at which messages were sent in Canada. Only twelve offices paid salaries and these were in the large cities. All their other employees worked on commission. They employed about 5,000 men, and only half of these were on a strike. The only reason they struck was because they were compelled to join the Brotherhood, and their co-operation was secured by the operators in the United States in order to prevent importation from Canada, such as occurred in 1870. They had no grievance, as they were paid extra for all Sunday work, and there had been a constant increase of wages, instead of a reduction.

He had also heard that all the offices throughout the dominion are fully manned. He did not believe in yielding a single point to the strikers. He thought from what he had seen that the strike would not be a success.

Jay Gould said they did not propose to recognize any committee from the Brotherhood, and that if the employees of the company persisted in their present action, they would not get a cent. They had already made fools of themselves, and they would realize it before long.

At the office of the American Rapid Telegraph Company, the Superintendent said new hands were being gradually obtained, and with their automatic instruments at work no delay was experienced.

At the Baltimore & Ohio (Commercial) Telegraph Company, Manager Fitch said messages subject to delay were taken for

all points excepting St. Louis and Louisville, where business is proceeding as usual.

The operators of the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company determined to resign if called upon to serve the Western Union Company. At the Produce Exchange the effect of the strike was more seriously felt, and in consequence of a reduction in the force of operators, quotations received from Chicago and other Western points were very meager. The Postal Telegraph Com'y has put in some of its wires and rendered considerable assistance. Business, however is unusually dull. Business at the cotton exchange has also fallen off in consequence of the strike. Reports from the South slowly, and there is great delay in getting quotations.

## A MORTGAGED CITY.

**The Bank of Kentucky Laying Claim to a Part of the Town of Pottsville, Pa.**

POTTSVILLE, PA., July 21.—Some thirty odd years ago, when the Schuylkill Bank of Philadelphia failed and the Bank of Kentucky assumed its obligations and took its assets, among other property which passed into its hands was a tract known as Lawton's addition to Pottsville. In 1853 this tract, consisting of seventy-eight acres, was purchased by Francis W. Hughes, and laid out in town lots. In buying the property Hughes gave two mortgages for parts of the purchase money. The mortgages were never fully satisfied, though from time to time Hughes continued paying on them. There still remains due, according to the claim of the Kentucky bank, \$17,000. The lots were sold, and within the past twenty-five years the tract has become one of the most thickly settled portions of the town. Some five hundred buildings are on the unencumbered tract, most of them being the homes of working people. Included in the number are several of the finest residences and three or four industrial establishments. Ten streets traverse the tract, which comprises nearly a whole ward. The owners of these properties have been living in the belief that their titles were unclouded. The Bank of Kentucky, however, has finally become urgent for a settlement of its claim, the amount of which Mr. Hughes disputes, and, after frequent postponements of an amicable adjudication, the bank's attorneys decided to foreclose. The writs were issued out of the United States District Court by Chief Justice Morrison, and are being served by a Deputy Marshal on all the lot owners.

## MASTODONIC BONES.

**Remains of Jumbo's Ancient Predecessor Unearthed.**

SYRACUSE, N. Y., July 21.—In the town of Manlius, eight miles east of this city, the remains of an animal have been found. A huge molar, weighing about twenty-five pounds, and a piece of tusk nearly five feet long and eight inches in diameter in the thickest part were brought to this city. Other portions of the tusk and part of a shin bone were found. The remains lay about thirteen feet beneath the surface in a deposit of gravel. Prof. Boynton, who exposed the Cardiff giant fraud, says that these are the relics of a mastodon which must have been fully fourteen feet high, and probably weighed a third more than Jumbo. The tusks, he says, must have been at least eleven feet long. The animal lived in the post pliocene period of the tertiary age. Professor Boynton is of the opinion that the remains were washed into the gravel pit where they were found. Professor Brown, instructor of natural history at Syracuse University, thinks the bones are those of a mammoth, rather than a mastodon. The tusks, he says, indicate one of the largest skeletons that has ever been exhumed. The tooth and the tusk are in a state of excellent preservation. The tip of the tusk shows the natural color of the ivory.

## San Francisco Opium Ring.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 21.—The big opium seizure of January last year has a sequel in the arrest of ex-United States Commissioner of the Circuit Court O'Beirne and James Harkness. It has been known there was a big opium ring here, but the custom officers could not drop on it. Recently the Hawaiian Sugar Commission was sent out here to look after sugar importations, but was also instructed to investigate the opium cases. O'Beirne is charged with receiving a bribe of \$1,500 from Harkness to influence his decision in a case pending in court, in which Harkness is charged with bribing a Government officer and conspiracy to defraud the Government by aiding in smuggling opium. Harkness is wealthy, owning large ranches in Monterey county, and it is expected his prosecution will break up the opium ring.

## Barb Wire Injunction.

JOLIET, ILL., July 21.—The Lockstitch Fence Company, of this city, has been enjoined by Judge Blodgett from manufacturing any more barb-wire fence this year. The company works under a license from the Washburn & Moen manufacturing company, the great barb-wire monopolists of Massachusetts, which permits it to use but twenty-one machines and manufacture not over 2,000 tons of barb-wire a year. The Washburn & Moen company complains that the Joliet company has already manufactured more this year than the stipulated amount and has sued for damages.

## Drowning of H. W. Lord.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—The body of H. W. Lord, a son of ex-Congressman Lord, of Michigan, and recently a clerk in the patent office, was found floating in the Potomac by some fishermen. The men were ignorant and towed the body ashore at a point near Beall's Land, about eighty miles down the river, and buried it in the sand. It is supposed he fell from one of the river steamers.

## A NEW YORK CHARITY.

### Rewards to the Meritorious Blind Yearly Distributed.

**An Example Worthy of Attention by Other Cities—Statue to Peter Cooper—Du Chaillu's New Book on the Viking Age.**

Staff Cor. of the Am. Press Association.

NEW YORK, July 21.—The industrious blind in this city are objects of special charity, or rather reward, for the system of distributing money to them annually does not reach the idle, worthless and beggars, hence the term charity is too broad, indicating as it does help to those who cannot or will not help themselves. It was some years ago that a philanthropic spirit took possession of the municipal government and led to an annual appropriation of \$20,000 for this purpose. Had the object been to aid indiscriminately this class of the afflicted ten times the amount would not be sufficient to answer the appeals for a share of the fund. This was illustrated the other day when the Commissioners of Charities and Corrections distributed the appropriation for this year. Only four hundred and eighty received assistance, while the applicants came to the commissioners' office in throngs, representing almost every nation, faith and creed. Christians and Mahomedans, Jews, gentiles and heathens, each gave to the crowd their peculiar dress and address. The blind American brushed against the sightless Turk, Chinese and Indian. It was a motley throng, full of life study, exciting sympathy and impersonating the text that the greatest of all virtues is charity.

The distribution was attended with no confusion, and was under the immediate direction of Superintendent Blake, who a few days before had sent to each one of the blind to be rewarded a postal card with the request that he or she should bring it to the office when the distribution was to be made. Mr. Byrnes by this means could identify the applicant and have at hand the memorandum of his or her place of residence. As an example of how the business was conducted, the case of Mr. Byrnes will serve. This receiver of the public gift was an old man, the ravages of old age on a once stalwart frame and active mind being shown in feebleness of gait and childish expression. In him the Superintendent recognized an old time friend.

"Mr. Byrnes, how are you?" Mr. Blake inquired.

"Oh, I am quite well, but I am troubled in moving about," Mr. Byrnes replied. "I can't see as well as I have hitherto," with a smile.

"You still live at 64 Varick street, Mr. Byrnes?" Mr. Blake asked next.

"Oh, yes, indeed. It is the best place for me, you know, though I know I'd like a change once in a while to vary monotony."

Mr. Byrnes being given a small white card on which was printed and written "Department of Public Charities and Correction, Donation to the Blind, Pay Mr. Byrnes \$38." was led to another part of the hall. Here he received the amount from the paymaster who had the top of his desk filled with packages of greenbacks. Mr. Byrnes evinced his pleasure in smiles and brief but sincere expressions of gratitude.

Mr. Timothy Shea, a well-known west side politician, asked how the blind from all over the State could not come and be paid this morning.

"In about the same way that voters cannot vote except where they live" he was told. "We know our friends."

The recipients of this bounty are placed on the pay roll after a careful examination by the Commissioners, to whom the worth of the applicant is proved by the affidavits of two respectable citizens, conversant with his life and industry.

The triangular plot of ground facing the Cooper Union is to have placed upon it a statue of the great philanthropist. To complete this honor to one whose memory is revered by those for whom he has done so much in opening up a way to knowledge without cost it is proposed to have the Legislature give to the place the name of Cooper Park.

Paul Du Chaillu has gone to Europe in search of other matter for the completion of his book, "The Viking Age." He carried with him a chest filled with the manuscript of his new work. He will go to Denmark to visit the harbor from which it is supposed Canute sailed on his great expedition.

The work will be a history of the earlier English speaking people of their settlements, migrations, conquests, religions and their influence on the human race. The facts will be drawn from Scandinavian rather than Anglo-Saxon sources. The work will show how the early English people lived. Mr. Du Chaillu maintains that Persia was the cradle of the early English speaking people.

MANHATTAN.

## The People Won.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—In 1879 a town was founded at Eureka Springs, Ark., and for nearly a year nothing was done to give any prospects for future success, but in 1880 upward of four thousand persons settled there, and now the number of inhabitants is ten thousand. Outside parties pre-empted certain lands within the city limits and laid out building lots. At the same time they gave out a report that the waters there possessed great curative properties and thereby, they claim, caused heavy emigration and caused property to sell rapidly and increase in value. The question arose, who owned the town, the people who have gone there and made the place what it really is, or those who pre-empted a large portion of the town sites and now wish to sell them at high figures. The commissioners of the land office decided in favor of the former.